

# MainStreetBIZ

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Dear Main Street Area Property Owner,

The Main Street Area Business Improvement Zone ("BIZ") is completing its eighth year of operation; and twelve years on Main Street and the surrounding area. The boundary of the BIZ is Huron Street to the north, Fifth Avenue to the east, Liberty and William to the south (with the Federal Building, Transit Center and old Y parking lot cut out), and Ashley on to the west.

The COVID pandemic has impacted downtown for longer than anyone predicted and is likely to be a challenge for some time to come. Throughout the pandemic, the BIZ continued to provide high-quality service while adapting to new challenges and demands. Without interruption, the services listed below were maintained throughout the COVID shutdown, with some modifications to respond to individual business needs.

Sidewalk snow removal services: Snow removal that provides safe and predictable access is Job 1 for the BIZ. The BIZ continues to keep the sidewalks, crosswalks, and curb cuts free of snow and ice by melting small accumulations and shoveling larger snowfalls. This winter season was less brutal than normal, and resources were moved around to respond to other challenges.

Sidewalk sweeping and handbill removal: When snow and ice are gone, the BIZ keeps the sidewalks in the district neat and clean by sweeping and removing handbills. Given the continued program of outdoor dining and the presence of temporary outdoor dining 'rooms,' the BIZ increased the frequency of sidewalk sweeps, to as many as four sweeping applications per week.

Landscaping: The BIZ plants and maintains 24 concrete planters, placed in locations off of Main Street, with four-season plantings that give the sidewalks visual interest year-round. And each year, the BIZ donates funds to the Main Street Area Association for the upkeep of the tree box planters on Main Street.

I invite you to attend the Annual Meeting of the BIZ. The meeting is set for **Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 8:00 am by Zoom**. The Annual Meeting includes items that require a vote of the property owners in attendance. If you cannot attend, but would like to vote, a Proxy form has been attached. Please

complete the form, scan, and email to Betsy Jackson at [betsyjackson@theurbanagenda.com](mailto:betsyjackson@theurbanagenda.com) no later than May 23. The agenda for the Annual Meeting and the *2021-2022 Main Street Area BIZ Annual Report* are available to review or download at [www.annarbormainstreetbiz.com](http://www.annarbormainstreetbiz.com). Likewise, Zoom linking information is available on the BIZ website, or by emailing Betsy Jackson at the address above.

The BIZ property owners present at the Annual Meeting will be voting to elect/re-elect five people to join the board of directors, for terms running July 1, 2022-June 30, 2025. Prospective board members must be commercial property owners within the BIZ boundary and should be prepared to:

- Attend board meetings 6-12 times per year
- Participate on standing or ad hoc committees as requested
- Serve as an information source about the BIZ
- Be the 'eyes and ears' for the BIZ regarding service delivery and trouble shooting.

To nominate yourself or someone else, please contact BIZ Chairman Ed Shaffran at [edward@shaffran.com](mailto:edward@shaffran.com), no later than Thursday, May 19, 2022.

Doing business downtown has been tough, and keeping the Main Street area clean and accessible has never been more important. Twelve years under our belt, the Business Improvement Zone continues operating day in and day out to provide clean and safe sidewalks and a pleasant outdoor environment. We can look back, with pride, at the standard of excellent service, conscientious governance, and creativity we've maintained, even during challenging times. These are the standards that we will carry forward into the new fiscal year and beyond. Your participation and insight are always welcome. I hope to see you at the Annual Meeting on May 24.

And please feel free to post or photocopy this letter to share with your tenants; all are welcome!

Sincerely,



Edward Shaffran, Chairman  
Main Street Area Business Improvement Zone Board of Directors  
734.665.1200 X 701, [edward@shaffran.com](mailto:edward@shaffran.com)

**MAIN STREET AREA BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ZONE  
PROXY STATEMENT 2022**

Name of Property Owner within the BIZ Zone: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name & Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact telephone or email address: \_\_\_\_\_

I \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby authorize the following person to represent me at the 2022 Annual Meeting of the Main Street Area Business Improvement Zone and to vote on my behalf on any agenda items requiring a vote of the property owners.

Name & Title of Proxy:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Property Owner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date